Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

No. FL. 2095—B. 4-08-9, DATED 5TH NOVEMBER 1908.

ORDER—The following Resolution of the Government of India on the Administration of the Co-operative Credit Societies Act during the fifteen months ending 30th June 1907, is published for the information of District Officers and of the general public.

K. S. CHANDRASEKHARA AIYAR,
Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Depts.

No. 2—188-1.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

LAND REVENUE.

Dated Calcutta, the 25th March 1908.

READ—

The reports received from Local Governments on the administration of the Co-operative Credit Societies Act (Act X of 1904), during the fifteen months ending 30th June 1907.

The proceedings of the conference of Registrars of Co-operative Credit Societies held in Calcutta on the 18th November 1907 and following days.

RESOLUTION.

After the passing of the Co-operative Credit Societies Act in March 1904, a Registrar was appointed in each province to carry out the formal duties imposed upon that officer by the Act and to foster in every possible way the growth of the co-operative movement in India. In the instructions issued by the Government of India after the passing of the Act, stress was laid on the necessity of reducing restrictions to a minimum, so that the people might be encouraged (subject to certain necessary safeguards) to work out the problem on their own lines with such guidance and help as could be given to them. Local Governments were invited to select a few districts in each province in which the experiment might be most hopefully tried, and it was pointed out that it would be advisable to start cautiously and to progress gradually, since the principle of co-operation might be fatally discredited by a series of failures, whereas a few really successful results would encourage imitation and set an example which would quickly spread.

2. On the 31st March 1905, thirty-five rural and six urban societies with a capital Rs. 54,128 had been registered under the Act, but there were also, especially in the United Provinces, a considerable number of societies at work that had not been formally registered. A year later the Registrars were supervising the work of 490 societies, but of these over 200 were either not working actively or had not been registered under the Act. The total number of active societies registered under the Act on the 31st March 1906 was 283, of which 9 were central societies, 37 were urban societies and 237 were rural societies. They had a membership of 21,629 and a working capital of Rs. 4,73,219. In accordance with the recommendation of the first conference of Registrars which was held in September 1906, the 30th June was fixed as the end of the Co-operative Credit Societies' year and the reports and returns now submitted accordingly cover a period of fifteen months. The following table compares the statistics of registered societies on the 30th June 1907 and on the 31st March 1906 :—

	31st March 1906.	30th June 1907.
No. of Societies.	Rs.	Rs.
Central	9	14
Urban	37	89
Rural	237	743
Total ...	283	846
Number of members	28,629	91,343
Capital.	Rs.	Rs.
Loans from private persons ...	1,40,539	6,56,092
Share capital	1,31,205	5,55,805
Deposits by members	1,23,925	5,76,025
State aid	70,152	2,84,758
Reserve	7,398	58,593
Total. ...	4,73,219	21,31,258